

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Monday, January 28, 2008.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Prayer.

God, Our Creator, we begin this legislative workweek with hearts and minds filled with enthusiasm, hope and trust in You and in each other. Our intention is to respond to the many concerns and the various interests of constituents. Inspire us to unite people in our communities and neighborhoods in pursuing goals and public policies which serve both the current as well as the future needs of the Commonwealth. Teach us to connect with the people by dialoging with them in a positive, open, but critical manner. In this changing and sometime volent world, help us to continue to recognize and acknowledge the personal dignity and rights of all individuals.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of the House and their families. Amen.

Pledge of  
allegiance.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the committee on Rules:

Acton Chinese  
Language  
School.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Eldridge of Acton and Atkins of Concord) honoring the Acton Chinese Language School on the occasion of its fifth anniversary; and

Mameve  
Medwed.

Resolutions (filed by Ms. Wolf of Cambridge) honoring Mameve Medwed;

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Rodrigues of Westport, the resolutions (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Petitions.

Palmer,  
charter.

Mr. Stanley of Waltham presented a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4500) of Todd M. Smola and Stephen M. Brewer (by vote of the town) for legislation to place certain questions on the ballot in the town of Palmer relative to the establishment of a charter commission for said town; and the same was referred to the committee on Election Laws. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Petitions severally were presented and referred as follows:

By Ms. Callahan of Sutton, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Jennifer M. Callahan for legislation to regulate the prosecution of owners and operators of overweight motor vehicles.

Vehicles,  
overweight.

By Ms. Coakley-Rivera of Springfield, joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cheryl A. Coakley-Rivera and others for legislation to establish within the Department of Education an afterschool and out of school time council.

Afterschool  
council,  
establishment.

By Mr. DiNatale of Fitchburg, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephen L. DiNatale relative to the penalties for the use or manufacture of hidden compartments for the purpose of transporting or distributing controlled substances.

Hidden  
compartments,  
regulating.

By the same member, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephen L. DiNatale relative to the retirement of certain employees classified under Group 4 within the Department of Correction.

Correctional  
employees,  
retirement.

By the same member, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephen L. DiNatale and others for legislation to further regulate the record keeping procedures of scrap metal and junk dealers.

Scrap metal  
dealers,  
records.

By Mrs. Haddad of Somerset (by request), petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Paul Robinson relative to support orders issued by the Probate and Family Court for the maintenance, support and education of certain older children.

Divorce,  
support  
orders.

By Mr. Rush of Boston, petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Michael F. Rush and others for an appropriation of a certain sum of money for the National Army Museum in recognition of military veterans from the Commonwealth.

National  
Army  
Museum,  
funds.

By Mr. Turner of Dennis, joint petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Cleon H. Turner and others for legislation to increase the medical exemptions under the income tax laws of the Commonwealth.

Medical  
exemption,  
income  
taxes.

Severally, under Rule 24, to the committee on Rules.

Papers from the Senate.

The House Bill relative to the disposition of abandoned vessels (House, No. 4188) came from the Senate passed to be engrossed, in concurrence, with an amendment in section 1, in lines 15 and 16, striking out the words "and subject to appropriation pursuant to this section".

Abandoned  
vessels.

Under suspension of Rule 35, on motion of Mr. Verga of Gloucester, the amendment (reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn) was considered forthwith; and it was adopted, in concurrence.

A report of the Department of Public Health (under the provisions of sections 5 and 20 of Chapter 111 of the General Laws) relative to an inspection of Bay State Correctional Center, in the town of Norfolk, was spread upon the records of the House; and returned to the Senate.

Bay State  
Correctional  
Center,  
inspection.

A petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2471) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Anthony D. Galluccio, Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Denise Provost and other members of the General Court (with the approval

Somerville,  
roadways.

of the mayor and board of aldermen) for legislation to authorize concurrent jurisdiction between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the city of Somerville relative to certain roadways in the said city, was referred, in concurrence, to the committee on Transportation.

Petitions were referred, in concurrence, under suspension of Joint Rule 12, as follows:

Whitman,  
building  
use.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2474) of Robert S. Creedon, Jr. and Allen J. McCarthy for legislation relative to the use of a building in the town of Whitman. To the committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets.

Charles E.  
Shannon, Jr.  
Memorial  
Beach.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2475) of Patricia D. Jehlen, Paul J. Donato, Paul C. Casey and Anthony D. Galluccio for legislation to designate a certain portion of sandy beach in Winchester as the Senator Charles E. Shannon, Jr. Memorial Beach. To the committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

Plumbing  
projects,  
high  
school.

Petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2476) of Stephen M. Brewer, Richard T. Moore, Harriette L. Chandler, Anne M. Gobi and other members of the General Court for legislation to allow students in vocational technical high school programs to be involved in plumbing projects. To the committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

*Reports of Committees.*

Raynham,  
development  
fund.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules, that Joint Rule 7B be suspended on the petition of David L. Flynn and Mark R. Pacheco for legislation to establish a development revolving fund in the town of Raynham. Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Fresolo of Worcester, the report was considered forthwith. Joint Rule 7B was suspended; and the petition (accompanied by bill) was referred to the committee on Revenue. Sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the committee on Rules and the committees on Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently, that Joint Rule 12 be suspended on the following petitions:

Special  
education,  
enrollment.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Richard J. Ross relative to the definition of students enrolled in special education classes inside and outside of school districts. To the committee on Education.

Grafton,  
water  
districts.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of George N. Peterson, Jr., relative to certain boundary lines of the town of Grafton and South Grafton water districts. To the committee on Municipalities and Regional Government.

Crabbe  
disease,  
infant  
testing.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of James H. Fagan that the Department of Public Health be directed to establish regulations for the testing of infants for Crabbe disease; and

Blood  
donations,  
minors.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of Jay R. Kaufman and others relative to the donation of blood by certain minors;

Severally to the committee on Public Health.

Firearms,  
license  
fees.

Petition (accompanied by bill) of George N. Peterson, Jr., and others for legislation to eliminate fees or charges imposed on applicants for the licensing or possession of firearms. To the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. LeDuc of Marlborough, the reports were considered forthwith. Joint Rule 12 then was suspended, in each instance. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

By Mr. DeLeo of Winthrop, for the committee on Ways and Means, that the Bill to generate renewable energy and efficiency now (Senate, No. 2468) ought to pass with an amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in a duplicate of House document numbered 4373. Renewable energy.

Under suspension of the rules, on motion of Mr. Smizik of Brookline, the bill was read a second time forthwith.

The amendment recommended by the committee on Ways and Means then was adopted; and the bill, as amended, was ordered to a third reading.

Under suspension of the rules, on further motion of the same member, the bill was read a third time; and it was passed to be engrossed, in concurrence. The bill (Senate, No. 2468, amended) then was sent to Senate for concurrence in the amendment.

*Orders of the Day.*

The engrossed Bill designating a certain bridge in the town of Dalton as the Benjamin-Muraca Bridge (see House, No. 3503, changed), which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see House, No. 4330), was considered. Dalton, Benjamin-Muraca Bridge.

The amendment then was adopted in the following form (as approved by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading):

By striking out section 1 and inserting in place thereof the following section:

“SECTION 1. The bridge No. D-01-005 on Route 8 spanning the Housatonic river in the town of Dalton shall be designated and known as the Benjamin-Muraca Memorial Bridge, in memory of Gary Thomas Benjamin and Patrick John Muraca, Vietnam veterans who were killed in action.”

Sent to the Senate for its action.

*House bills*

Transferring the city of Marlborough to the Metrowest Regional Transit Authority (House, No. 4289) (its title having been changed by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading); and Third reading bills.

Authorizing the city of Methuen to lease a portion of that building known as the Quinn Building to Methuen Municipal Employees Federal Credit Union (House, No. 4325);

Severally reported by the committee on Bills in the Third Reading to be correctly drawn, were read a third time; and they were passed to be engrossed. Severally sent to the Senate for concurrence.

*Order.*

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

*Ordered*, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M.

Next sitting.

At twenty-six minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Ms. Rogeness of Longmeadow (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet tomorrow at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session.